TOURS OF DICKENS.

The Fight for Tickets at Boston and New York.

Sectionis in the Life of the Great Author -A Master Passion.

[St. James Gazette.] In his book, "Charles Dickens as I Knew Him," which has just been published, Mr. George Dolby gives an account of the famous reading tours in Great Britain and America. Mr. Daby accompanied Dickens as manager of the tours which were resumed in 1866; therefore he has much to tell that is both interesting and new about the experiences of his "chief" and himself during those en-

During the American tour the demand for tickets for the readings was so great as to be inconvenient. Clerks and servants of intending purchasers of tickets for the opening readings in Boston began to assemble outside the ticket-office the night before the sale began, being supplied with straw mattresses, blankets, food, and drink. By 8 o'clock in in the morning the queue was nearly half a mile long, and about that time the employers of the persons who had been standing in the streets all night began to arrive and take their places. But the scene in Boston was as nothing compared with the scene in New York; for the line of purchasers excoeded half a mile in length. At Brooklyn. "the nobie army of speculators," as Dickens described them, were in greater force than eyer. They had been in the line since 10 the previous evening, and during the whole night had kept up an enormous bonfire in the street, sleeping around it in turns on their mattresses and enjoying their suppers of bread and meat, with potations of Bourbon whisky. Early in the morning, and just before daybreak, a body of police appeared upon the scene, an idea having suddenly occurred to them that in a narrow a bonfire was a source of considerable daneer to the whole of that part of the city. The police made a raid on the bonfire, the mattresses and speculators, and a terrific combat ensued, in which the people farthest off in the line took the most prominent part, until they saw that those nearest the door were being routed, and then with broken heads and bleeding noses rushed into the good places, bringing with them their mattresses and hanging to the iron railings to keep possession of the places they had so gallantle fought for.

Mr. Dolby gives the following account of a canine comedy at Washington which Dick-ens has himself described: "By some means or other a stray, comical-looking dog had contrived to force his way into the hall, unseen by the police and the ushers in attendance. During the reading of a comic portion of the 'Carol' this dog suddenly made his appearance from under the front seat and tared intently at Mr. Dickens. One of the mehers took an early opportunity of having the dog removed, a process which was quietly effected. But a little later the animal contrived to return to his former position, sailors had escaped in an open boat. One of these, on making land came straight to Lonif in great pain. This had sud a ridiculous don, and straight to the newspaper office effect on Mr. Dickens that he could not help with the story of how he had seen the laughing. Everybody laughed, but the dog ship go down before his eyes. The young was most unceremoniously ejected, receiving miscellaneous kicks and raps over the head tention between the powers of grease and from sticks and umbrellas. Strange to say, water for the destruction of that ship and he returned the next night; but on his way into the hall he indiscreetly knocked his head agaidst Mr. Osgood's leg. That gentledead. He had floated by day, and frozen by men was too quick for the dog. Seizing him night, with no shelter and no food, and as from one to another until he found himself lips, he was cheered, and refreshed, and in the street. He was not, however, to be soothed, and asked if anything could be in the street. He was not, however, to be got rid of in this manner; for on the occasion of the third reading he came again ac-companied by another dog; but the staff were on the lookout for him, and he did not get in, much to his disappointment; for, as Mr. Dickens said, "he had evidently promised to pass the other dog free."

The excitement of the public on the occaounds, and the desire to hear the "Murder" reading was especially intense. The great nterest taken in this, and the dead sitence which prevailed during the delivery of it, had the effect of making Mr. Dickens more vehement, if possible, than on any previous occasion. He worked himself up to a pitch of excitement which rendered him so utterly prostrate that when he went to his retiringroom (which he reached with diffihe was forced to lie on sofa for some moments before could retain strength sufficient to utter a word. It took him but a short time, though, to recover; and after a glass of champagne he would go on the platform again for the final reading as blithe and gay as if he were just commencing his evening's work. These shocks to the nerves were not as easily re-pelled as for the moment they appeared to be, but invariably recurred later on in the evening, either in the form of great hilarity or a desire to be once more on the platform, or in a craving to do the work over again. med on the subject of speech-making, and | ing Dickens was asked to explain how he prepared an important speech. He told us that,

anpposing the speech was to be delivered in the evening, his habit was to take a long walk in the morning, during which he would decide on the various heads to be dealt with. These being arranged in their proper order, he would, in his "mind's eye" liken the whole subject to the tire of a cartwheel-he being the hub. From the hub to the progress of the speech he would deal with each spoke separately, elaborating them as he went round the wheel; and when all the spokes dropped out one by one, and nothing but the tire and space remained, he would know that he had accomplished his

task, and that his speech was at an end.

Mr. Dolby gives the following account of what Dickens told him was said during his lew with the sovereign, should be ted, her majesty had remained the whole time leaning over the head of a sofa. There was a little shynese on both sides at the commencement, but this wore away as the con-versation proceeded. Her majesty expressed ther deep regret at not having heard one of the readings, and although highy flattered at this, Dickens could only express his sorrow that, as these were now finally done with, and as, moreover, a mixed audience was absolutely necessary for their success it would be imposgracionaly asked his opinion on the 'servant have cheerfully paid—if, indeed, the poor that we have no good servants in England in the olden times? Mr. Dickens resoluble. It is a bond of love between us saved, but to do His will, to keep His compand that is fixed, unaltered, unalterable. Had I mands, to go where He sends, to accomplish t, except, perhaps, on the hypothesis that a thousand years of life I'd live it all with the work He gives us.

he added, he had his own ideas, but saw no likelihood of their being carried into effect. The price of provisions, the cost of butcher's meat and bread were next lightly touched upon, and so the conversation rippled on agreeably to an agreeable end. But the interview did not close until the Queen, with gracious modesty, had begged Mr. Dickens' acceptance of a copy of the 'Journal in the Highlands,' in which her majesty had placed an autograph inecription and her own signmanual. The Queen, on handing the book to Mr. Dickens, modestly remarked that she felt considerable hesitation in presenting so humble a literary effort to one of the foremost writers of the age. After asking Mr. Dickens to look kindly on any literary faults of her book, her majesty expressed a desire to be the possessor of a complete set of Mr. Dickens' works This was the only interview Dickens had with the Queen, but her kindness on the occasion impressed him

After the funeral of a friend Dickens conlessed that "of course I made an ass of myself, and did the wrong thing, as I invariably do at a funeral." He proceeded to explain that, arriving at the house of his late friend, he was met in the hall by an elderly gentleman, who extend his hand. Presuming this to be a friend whom he had met semewhere but had forgotten, he took the gentleman by the hand, saying at the same time: "We meet on a sad occasion." "Yes, indeed," was the reply. "Poor dear Sir James."
(This with a long-drawn sigh.) Dickens passed on to the dining-room, where several other friends were congregated, and where for a time he quite forgot his friend in the hall; but presently he remembered of that affecting meeting by the entrance of the elderly gentleman, carrying before him a trayful of hats adorned with long mourning bands, and so high was the pile as to almost hide him from view. The elderly gentleman's position in society was now made manifest. He was the undertaker's man, and wanted Dickens' hat for the purpose of funeral decoration; hence his object in holding out his hand. Mr Dickens was greatly amused (the seriousness of the occasion notwithstanding) when he discovered the mistake he had made.

The closing of the American accounts revealed a state of affairs to Mr. Dickens far in excess of his anticipations. The original cheme embraced eighty readings in all, of which seventy-six were actually given. Taking one city with another, the receipts averaged \$3,000 each reading; but as small places did not exceed \$2,000 a night, the rets in New York and Boston (whe) largest sums were taken) far exceed \$3,600. The total receipts were \$228,000, and the expenses were \$39,000. After paying all charges and expenses Dickens' profit on the enterprise amounted to nearly £19,000. Out of the 242 readings given under Mr. Dolby's management nearly \$33,000 was cleared.

The last extract we shall make from this book is a story which Dickens teld in the last speech he made but one: " 'I was once present,' he said, 'at a social discussion which originated by chance. The subject was 'What was the most absorbing and longest-lived passion in the human breast? What was the passion so powerful that it would almost induce the generous to be mean, the careless to be cautious, the guileless to be deeply designing and the dove to emulate the s pent?" A daily editor of vast experience and great acuteness who was one of the company considerably surprised us by saying with the greatest confidence, that the passion in question was the passion of getting orders for the play! There had recently been a terrible shipwreck, and a very few of the surviving sailors had escaped in an open boat. One of man had witnessed the most terrible conof everyone on board. He had rowed away with both his hands, he threw him over his | he told the dismal tale he rolled his haggard shoulder, and he was caught like a ball at a | eyes about the room. When he had finished, cricket match by the ushers and passed on and the tale had been noted down from his done for him. Even within him, that master passion was so strong that he immediately replied he should like an order for the

HOW THE COACHEAN WON HER,

Victoria Moresini Explains How Ernest

Captured Her Affections. Notwithstanding the fact that volumes have been written and published about the famous Morosini elopement case and various explanations made as to how the lady became infatuated with her father's coachman, the real facts were never brought to light until they were obtained by a reporter here from Mrs. Schilling herself, says a Boston telegram to the New York World. The story is a remarkable one. Mrs. Schilling, in reply to questions on the subject, said "From childhood up it has been my pleas

are to roam at will through the forest which surrounded my home. Riding, too, was a great enjoyment to me, not because Ernest drove, for then I had no interest in him. One day I went to ride on the road that winds along the banks of the beautiful Hudson river. From one point on that road the ruins of an old stone mansion are visible. It stands on the top of a hill at considerable distance from the road to the right. I had often wished to go nearer to the moss-grown walls, but had always been deterred At supper one evening, the conversation | by some member of the family bemarked "Dangerous!" which was nailed to a tree in front of it. But this day I was alone and determined. Ernest drove, and, notwithstanding his entreaty, I sprang out of the carriage, and was soon peering into the great entrance of the old ruin. Arming myself with a stick I pushed aside the vines and creepers that overhung the open door, and stood within the great hallway, which was filled with poisonous undergrowth. the tire be would run as many spokes as The interior presented such a wild and were the subjects to be treated, and during gloomy aspect that I was almost on the point gloomy aspect that I was almost on the point of running away. Had I done so, Victoria Morosini would never have married Ernest Schilling. Being that day imbued with a spirit of adventure, I mounted to the top of a flight of stone sters, where I found a narback. I started to traverse that hall, but on taking three or four steps forward there was a crash. I felt myself falling-falling-and audience of the queen in 1870: "He went on to tell me that her majesty had received gained my senses, some days later, I was him most graciously, and that, as court etiqued requires that no one, in an ordinary rounded by auxious friends and relatives, and Ernest (who had rescued me, crushed and bleeding, from beneath the wrecked floor) stood over me with a white face. They were awaiting the doctor's decision as to my chances for life. I had lingered for days, wasting slowly. "It is a serious wound," said the physician; "she has suffered great loss of blood, and I predict her death within an hour unless one chance alone remains, for ber! it is a blood transfusion." All this I heard him say without being able to open was another pause. Not one of them moved.

The Ernest Echillings stepped forward, and without a moment's heatation he bared his strong right arm and said, calmly, yet, oh, garlah fights I vanish now for evermore; and remarking that, even if such a thing were possible, there would be inconsistency in it, which was avidently not one of Mr. my eyelids or speak a word. Then there in it, which was evidently not one of Mr. Ito mine. He saved my life, for I grew strong Dickens' characteristics. After referring in almost immediately. Then there areas an of an earnest, faithful servant of the door the preacher said, "But I will tell intuitive attachment between us. How could Lord Jesus. Confining ourselves to this, we majesty had derived in witnessing Mr. Dick- I resist loving the man to whom I owed my note under the blood was translated from Ernert's arm turned to walk out. Before they reached the door the preacher said, "But I will tell you a story." This, of course, arrested the strangers, and they paused, turned again, and listened. "Once there was a man." as the year 1857, the conversation took a general turn. Mr. Dickens told me, with a good deal of unction, that her majesty had a great debt I owed him, and one which I self as set spart to the Lord. He regarded to the lord of England. In all the thirteen and all the trees in the world made into one States government of England. In all the thirteen and all the trees in the world made into one States the common law of England re-

KNOTTY PROBLEMS.

Our readers are invited to furnish original entemas, charactes, riddles, rebuses and other "knotty problems," addressing all communications relative to this department to E. B. Uhadbeurn, Lewiston,

No. 1068 .- An Offensive Name. I am a person rather common, Sometimes a man, sometimes a woman; Besides, it seems to be my luck To be a plant, also a duck, But to a dame my name apply— You'll see the lightning of her eye, Expressive of indignant ire That seems to say, "You are a liar." The other biped with my name is rather honored by the same; As for the plant, let doctors use it, All healthy persons will refuse it. If I should choose to make parade Of what I am in a charade, Then I might say to a one two Your two is one, and twould seem droil, Or I might say, what would seem droil, That second brings to mind a pole. NELSONIAN,

No. 1069 .- A Riddle. If I leave and take my head The remains are in "a scattered state;" But if my tail I take instead. I still am "present"-strange to relate.

Ro. 1070 .- A Diamond. 1. A consonant.

Greece near Athens.

8. A feminine name.

A personal pronoun. Parts of a flower. An exhilarating liqueur. A French proper name. 7. One form of the name of an island o

9. A yowel. A. R. A. No. 1071 .- A Charade.

A worthless fellow, I declare, Was first who tried to catch a hare: He was not second, so the chase Was nothing but a useless race. Then he grew sick and failed quite fast, And, no great loss, he died at last; His ailment was not whole, 'twee said-And no one mourned when he was dead. NELSONIAN.

No. 1072.-Eternal Fitness. In form I'm tall and slender, Though my feet are quite robust; My movements quick and sprightly. Though I grovel in the dust, Quite active when on duty. Yet as harmless as you please; Always kicking up a breeze. In fact there's this about me-Wherever Christian people dwell They will not do without me. By fair and gentle hands Most frequently I'm used Sometimes a weapon of defense When propriety's abused. If you decapitate me once, You will find in my remains What every well-built house Boon companions we have been Through all the ages past; And this will be our destiny While revolving cycles last. Now tell me what we two can be That so nicely, fitly blend; That with the end of time alone Our joint commissions end. KNAPER TANDY JUN.

No. 1073 .- Conundrums Why is the letter E like an esthete? And G, like a man who is quite incom And when is N much like a frolicsome And Y so like Spiritualism in truth?

No. 1074 .- A Strange Vision. As on "the place of a skull" I gazed, witnessed a scene which much amazed. A hundred headless men ran before Twice five hundred, no less—no more And unto me they did loudly cry.
"Give us succor else we must die?"
I quickly offered to help them through;
You, kind reader, must keep them, too. No more shall flow the blood that's red; To each luckless man we'll restore his head MEADOW LARK.

The Latest Premium. To the reader who furnishes the best lot of

answers to the "Knotty Problems" pub lished during January will be given Dickens' "Pickwick Papers," finely bound in cloth and illustrated. The solutions for each week should be forwarded within six days after the date of the Sentinel containing the puzzles answered.

1054. -Sixty. 1055.—Cob-web. 1056 -- 1. Generosity (Jennie Ross I tie). Pargeter (pa, get her). 1057 .- Panstereorama, 1058. - Dead-point. 1059.—Shake-spear.

ARAT RATA

ATAR

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

International Lessons-By Henry M. Grout, D. D .- January 11 .- Paul at Miletus .-

GOLDEN TEXT.—Repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.—Acts 20:21. Paul is no on his way to Jerusalem, having in charge the contributions of the Gentile churches for the needy saints there. It was because of his eagerness to be there at Pentecost that he did not now stop at Ephesus. At Ephesus he had many very dear friends, whom it would have been a delight to visit. But for that very reason he thought it unsafe to trust himself among them. They would have detained him too long. It was, however, unlikely (v. 25) that he would ever pass that way again; and, as he must delay a little at Miletus, he sent for the elders of the church that he might. through them, address some last words to those he so much loved.

The elders or presbyters of the church row hallway leading into a large room at the | were its overseers or bishops (v. 28). The office of presbyter and bishop was one and the same, as all competent scholars now agree. Their duty was to have the overgained my senses, some days later, I was sight and guidance of church affairs; though lying in bed at my father's house, sursome of them were also preachers and teachers of the word (1 Tim. 5:17). Paul sent for them as proper representatives of the disciples at Ephesus. It is possible that others came with them, and that representatives of different churches in the region were also present. Of this there seems to be a hint in

the twenty-fifth verse. It is interesting to observe the confidence with which he refers to the past; the years he had spent at Ephesus. It is a great thing

On this same subject of national education, Morosini wedded with Ernest Schilling, humility, and with "many tears and tempts-

tions," that is, griefs and trials; for the Jews even at Ephesus had plotted against him. One sign of his true lowliness of mind was that he was willing to hold on in service when it was so painful to do it. The proud are soon wearied with work which involves tears and afflictions. The lowly-minded will do what others will not, not caring either for an easy time or for human applause,

but only for the Master's approval. His unselfish eagerness to do good (20).
 As respected those for whom he labored, his one purpose was to be profitable to them. Therefore he kept back nothing they ought to hear. He did not study to say what would flatter or amuse or startle; he did not leave out the searching, humbling, alarming truths; he did not discuss the questions of time. He told them the things that would do them saving good. Then, further, he did not confine himself to routine service, or to one method. He taught publicly when he could, and privately when that was best. Seme preachers content themselves with delivering sermons; some Sunday-school teschers are satisfied with faithfulness in the class, and exhorters do all their work in the prayer-meeting. But much of the most fruitful Christian work is done from house to house, Individual preaching, teaching and exhorting deepens and fastens that which is public. No doubt it was this desire to be profitable in the highest degree which made Paul eager to testify to all classes, Jews or Greeks; for all have need to be saved and we know not with whom our words will prevail.

3. The substance of his preaching and teaching (21).-"Repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." He did not ask what men would like, but what would save them; what message God had committed to him. And this he found in the great doctrines and duties of repentance for sin and faith in the sinner's Sav-

But did not this make his preaching monotonous and parrow? By no means. For the field of truth thus opened might be broad enough for a lifetime of study and applicatien. It might include all we can know of God and Christ and heavenly things; of man's duty and destiny; of the requirements of God's law and the provisions of His grace; of gospel precepts as well as invitations and promises. Here surely is scope for variety and freshness.

Paul's example reminds us of the particular themes which should be oftenest on the Christian teacher's lips; and of the duties which are primary with us all. Would the must do it by repentance and faith. Would one go on unto perfection in that life? He must do it by daily new repentance for remaining sin, and fresh faith in the Sav-

Many stumble over the meaning of these two commonest of gospel words. And yet there is no need of this. What is repentance but a going over from our sins to God's side as against them? A going with contession and renunciation, and with the purpose henceforth to live to please him? And what is faith but the trustful acceptance of that mercy which God has pledged to us in and through Christ? The repentance is "toward God" in the sense that we own and see that our sins is all primarily against him. The faith is "toward our Lord Jesus Christ" in that we look to him as our sole and safii cient Redeemer and rightful Master. In all this there may be much or little emotion. The trustful going over to God, as he shows himself in the gospel of his son, is the essential thing,

 His heroic trust (22 24).—Looking forward the Apostle knew not what was before him (as none of us can know), save that he had every reason to anticipate "bonds and efflictions." How the Holy Spirit witnessed this to him we can not be sure. Perhaps by past experiences: perhaps by the warnings of Christian brethren: perhaps by strong inward conviction. And yet none of these things moved him from his purpose to push on. He had set out on a "course" and would finish it: he had consented to a "ministry" or service and would not turn aside from it Christ had commissioned him to "testify the gospel of the grace of God," and he felt that to do as his Master had bidden was his sole concern; the master would take care of the rest. He was "bound in spirit," irresistibly constrained to go forward. Here was great trust! And yet how reasonable it was! If Christ is our living Master is it not safest to commit all consequences to his order and press on in duty and service.

His freedom from the blood of souls. (25-27). The figure just here is startling. Blood on the garments was one of the proofs of the crime of murder. And so the suggestion is that one may be guilty of a crime like that. If a soul we might have saved is lost we are in some sense responsible. Yet the Apostle did not charge this erime on himself. And why? He tells these elders at Miletus: "For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." The reference is to that counsel or revealed truth. which was meant for our salvation. God commits all this to us to be used to arouse, instruct, convince and persuade. If for any reason we suppress it we are not guiltless with respect to souls thus left to slumber and perish. What a word of warning there is here for men who for the sake of popularity or worldly favor, or from conceit of superior wisdom, would trim, soften or amend the gospel to snit the fancies or likings of

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS. 1. Is religion honored or dishonored by what others know of our lives? 2. The ideal life is one of service, not ease or self-seeking.

3. The best work of the world is done, not | to the hearer with double force. by the self-satisfied, but by the hamble. either of repentance or of Christian solici- | that the five years following the peace of tude. Paul was often in tears. Jesus | 1783 was the most critical period of our his-

soothes to that which profits; and for this we may have a share of responsibility. 6. House-to-house preaching and praying | No strong sentiment had grown up in favor mark religious awakenings; and they also of union, but a very strong sentiment had help to produce them. Here is work in which sprung up in favor of local self-government. all might find some place.

7. To move men to personal repentance and faith was the primary aim of all the | pent and beg on their knees to be taken back Apostle's preaching. This is man's first and | again. daily duty. Without it there is no peace with God or hope of Heaven. Yet how content we may be without any good evidence that we have ever done it.

Lift Up Your Votee. Lift up your voice and sing, my man, And never look so sad. There's enough of the joy of Eden left To make the whole world glad. What if a shadow sometimes shifts Across the landscape, darkling? Down in the dale the lilles swing And the happy beck is sparkling; Then over the nills the sunshine drifts

Take up your burden and sing aloud, But be not your burden's slave, For cares, they will crush a timid soul, But they crouch before the brave. Make of the vexing things of life Stepping-stones over trouble, For as you sing, or as you sigh,

And away, away the shadow shifts,

Will cheer or worry double, So lift up your voice and sing, my man, For with song, not sorrow, the world began. -Olive Bartle.

Two strangers passing Rowland Hill's Church one day entered, walked up the aisle, and, finding no seat, stood for a while and listened to the sermon. Presently they turned to walk out. Before they reached tree, and he could wield the ax and cut mained in force as it does to-day, except down the tree, he would make it into one | where modified by statute. It was Georgia great whip to thrash those ungodly med who turn their backs on the gospel and stop

to hear a story."-The Argosy. The minimum salary of Presbyterian ministers in Canada is \$750, with a parsonage.

AN AUTOGRAPH QUILT.

The Beautiful Work of a Miunespells Lady Now on Exhibition. Minnespolis Tribune

In 1878 Mrs. E. Schofield Wright, wife of Mr. H. T. Wright, paymaster of the St Louis and Minneapolis railroad, undertook, for her own smusement and satisfaction, a task at once full of pleasure and difficulty. Being the daughter of a gentleman whose business and social relations brought him into contact with prominent men in this city and Europe, and having met many celebrities herself, she conceived the idea of a souvenir which should be a lasting remembrance o these people and one which she could hand down to her children. Her father was born in Pyemont hall, near Leeds, Yorkshire, England, a house made famous by Charlotte Bronte in her novel "Shirley." Her godfather was one of the originals of a well known character in that work.

The idea which Mrs. Wright conceived was that of constructing an autograph quilt. the patches of which should bear the autograph and some appropriate sentiment of the distinguished people whom her father knew, and of her own friends and acquaintances, or those of them who occupied a prominent place in the public mind. She began by sending a small piece of silk

to Clara Louise Kellegg, with a request for that lady's autograph, and was encouraged upon finding that her request had been complied with. Her next venture was a note with the silk enclesure to Miss Annie Louise Cary, and again she received a satisfactory return. From that time on she continued to solicit, either personally or through her father, W. H. Schofield, Esq., the autographs which she desired.

small scrap of silk large enough for a patch. In requesting from Colonel Mapleson and his wife. Marie Roze Mapleson, their autographs and those of the leading members of Her Majesty's Opera company, she sent about a guter of a yard of silk. Colonel Mapleson and his agreeable little wife signed their names on the silk, with good wishes for the lady who had requested it, but Geester seeing the name of Marie Roze already signed, refused to put her signature to She afteaward felt better tured about it and signed, however. This taught Mrs. Wr ght a lesson. From that time on she enclosed the patches already blocked, diamond-shaped, so that the person saked to sign could do so understandingly and without seeing any other signatures, But Rev. Henry W. Thompas, Chicago's well-known preacher, who was tried for heresy and found guilty by the Methodist Episcopal Church a few years ago, deliber-ately turned over the patch upon its back, and wrote his signature on the paper block

Her method at first was to send simply a

Mrs. Wright had many humorous and curious experiences while making the collection. She found it quite difficult to secure Henry Ward Beecher's autograph, "although," she said, "he gives it willingly to dealers in soap," but it came at last. Queen Victoria sent a letter through ber Lord Chancellor, Sir Henry Ponsonby. The Prince of Wales wrote through his private Secretary, and the Bank of England sent a note with out an autograph, the 'Old Lady of Threadneedle street" being rather particular about her signature.

But, notwithstanding the delays, difficulties and little annoyances which the lady met from time to time, she persevered, and the quilt, as completed, bears 192 antographs of prominent and distinguished people in all parte of the world.

Having collected the autographs on patches, Mrs. Wright began to put them together. She had taken the precaution to have sent out patches in shades and colors. so that when all were collected they would all be tastefully grouped in diamonds, the statesmen, ministers, actors, etc., occupying groups by themselves. The colors used in the quilt are of necessity light and delicate, being shades of cream, pink and blue-all of a very mild tint. These are blended beautifully, and are separated and intermixed with etchings in India ink, of which there are sixty-four, all of them Mrs. Wright's work. The border is cream-colored silk, hand-painted, by the gitted lady, in flowers of natural color. The dimensions of the quilt, as completed, are 61x66 inches.

Mrs. Wright has been prevailed upon to send this elegant and interesting piece of work to the world's fair at New Orleans, although she was adverse to doing so for some

JUST A CENTURY AGO.

How Our Ancestors Lived After the Rev

Boston Globe. A woman all in white sat peacefully and meditatively in the Old South Church yesterday. Her chair was placed on a level with the heads of some hundreds of people, and she seemed to smile gently over them and bless them as she looked across the room at a men standing on the platform directly opposite her. He was a large man with a big head, and he didn't seem to mind Harrist Martineau's marble stare a bit as he talked to the intelligent men and women, young and old, who filled the floor of the ancient meeting-house. The fact that he was ten minutes late seemed a matter of perfect indifference to him, and, without a word of apology, he began as interesting a lecture as ever he gave on American history. It was doubly interesting because it was about the days just a century ago, and in these centennial years such able discourses come home

It is not too much to say, declared the sun amounts to one day in every four years: | Whether gransmitted from pare None need ever be ashamed of tears, | lecturer, Philosopher Historian John Fisks, 5. It is one of the ill signs of our times after the close of the Rebellion in 1865. The that so many seem to prefer eloquence to men of 1783 dwelt in a long, straggling truth, and preaching which entertains and series of republics fringing the Atlantic coast. The length of the war and its worst bardships had been due to disorganization. George III, believed we should get into such a snarl that many of the States would re-

The people in the United States were all English in speech, and mainly English in blood. The governments of the thirteen States were essentially similar, and the people of one understood thoroughly the government of the other. Yet it is hardly possible that our country have held together without the railroad. Railroads and telegraphs have made

OUR COUNTRY MORE BACG AND COMPACT than Switzerland was in the Middle Ages, McDuflie, "it will take ten months to get back again." To-day one can go quicker to the capital of Oregon than John Hancock could go from Boston to Philadelphia. The thirteen States had worked in concert for only nine years, but the several state governments had been in existence since the settlement of the country, and were looked upon with the most intense loyalty. During the war the colonies, with the exception of modelled their governments, but by no means in a revolutionary way. The American revolution was the most conservative revolution that ever took place. It was that first tet those pernicious examples of electing judges for short terms, a practice which has brought justice to such degradation in many instances, and will ul-

suffrage. At the time of the Revolution, New York and the Southern States were governed by the English law of primogeniture, the eldest son took all. In Pennsylvania, New Jersey and the four New England States, the eldest son took double. Georgia led the way in abolishing the system, and before 1700 all the others had followed her example. The Revolution paved the way for the aboliation of slavery. When George III, and his vetoes had been eliminated from the case it became possible for the state to legis-

late freely on the subject. In Virginia

ALL THE LEADING STATESMEN Favored abolition. After 1968 the sentiments of Virginia underwent a marked change. The breeding of slaves to supply the sugar planters of the Gulf states caused this change in feeling. Within two years after the recognition of this independence by England, while the Southern States had done nothing, North Carolina had discouraged the importation of slaves, Virginia had forbidden the importation and removed restraints from emancipation, and all the other States had made gradual emancipation com-

Meanwhile steps were taken toward more

o priests were liable to imprisonment for

religious freedom. In Massachusetts Catho-

life. The tithing man still arrested the Sab

bath-breaker and locked him up in the cage on the village green, stopped all unnecessary riding and walking, and hailed everybody to church whether they would or no. Only in South Carolina and Virginia the Church of England any real hold on had people. As soon as the separation of the country from England was established Episcopal Church was separated from the State, disestablished. In Virginia the case was peculiar. The Virginia Legislature thought fit to pass laws prohibiting the clergy from drinking, gambling and kindred vices. It was said they spent more time in fox-hunting and general frivolity than in their regular pastoral duties. The result of this general laxity was the possibility of starting dissenting communities on the borders of the settlements. As soon as the Indisps were repulsed to beyond the Onio these communities waxed strong and grew. them and impose the Church of England on them. A rebellion followed, resulting in the complete overthrowing of the established church. The religious freedom acc of 1885 put Virginia in the fore-front of the States in religious freedom as Massachusetts had been in the abolition of slavery.

The foundation of a separate Episcopal Church west of the Atlantic was followed by the separation of the Methodists. The first Methodist Church in America was founded in 1766 at New York. At the end of the war water will prevent sickness or pains from change of water. It is better than French Brandy or Bile John Wesley, in his own house, ordained enough ministers to form a presbytery, and an American bishop was appointed. In November, 1784, the Methodist began preachg in the wilds of Maryland. The Catholic hurch began to spread in the colonies bont he same time, and in 1789 the first Catholic Church in New England was built The last of

The organization of the single state was well understood, and worked well, with but little friction. Hence such changes as above were practicable.

A SINGULAR FAUL. A Presidential Year Which Will Not Be a Leap Year.

|Nashville American.| One evening, a short time ago, as a re porter of the American found himself with a party of friends, the conversation turned on the fact that this was leap year. A middleaged gentleman in the party remarked:

"Thank goodness, it is nearly over." 'Why?" inquired the man of the pencil. "Well, to make a long story short, some years ago, in a leap year, a beautiful, weil-educated and altogether lovely young lady, asked me to marry her in a jest. I said 'yes,' as I had long entertained a secret affection for her. She meant every word she said, and insisted that we should be married at Christmas. I consented and we were married. A better wife man never had, But, alas for my future prospects, she lived but one short year and now sleeps in Mount Olivet. Here is where my aversion to leap year comes in. I am afraid that some designing woman will propose to me in some leap year, and that I will be compelled to accept, and, instead of getting a helpmate for life, I will get a vixen who will make

my life a hell upon earth.' "Then," said the scribe, "you have to dread leap year for two reasons. The first you have stated. The second is on account of the depression to business caused by leap year always being a Presidential year." "There you are mistaken. Every Presidential year is not a leap year. If I live till the year 1990, as I have good prospects of do-ing, I will see a Presidential year which is not a leap year, and still a year divisible by

This set the reporter to studying. He could not make out how it was. His informant left him in the dark, and he finally consulted the authorities, with the following result, taken from Smith's "Illustrated

"It has been found by observation that the earth revolves on its axis 365% times nearly while it is making one complete revolution around the sun, or while the sun moves from either equinox to the same equinox again. Consequently the solar year upon which the seasons depend contains nearly 365% days. It will be seen from this that the difference between a year of 365 days and the year as measured by the so that in 120 years of 365 days the seasons would fall back one whole month, and the sesson for May would be in June, etc. In 720 years the longest day would fall back through the twelve months, and would again correspond to their present arrangement In

order to keep the seasons to the same months.

and to make the solar and civil year correspond, one day more is included in February every fourth year. This would always keep the solar and civil years together if the earth revolved upon its axis exactly 365% times. while it is revolving around the sun or during the solar year; but the earth revolves from equinox to the same again in 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 49 seconds, which is 11 minutes 11 seconds less than 3651 days; consequently in allowing one day in every four years is allowing 41 minutes, 44 seconds too much, and in 132 years it would amount to 24 hours, 36 minutes, 6 seconds. The mode of reckoning time by making every fourth year a leap year was apopted by the Council of Nice in the year of our Lord 325, when the longest day in the year happened June 21, and the vernal equinox March 21. This mode of reckoning was continued until 1752, a period of 1427 years, or New England a century ago. When the | when it was found that the longest day was Oregon bill was discussed in 1843 the idea of on June 10, and the vernal equinox on our having anything to do with so remote a | March 10, the vernal equinox having fallen region as Oregon was highly ridiculed in back cleven days toward the beginning of back cleven days toward the beginning of the year. To restore the equinoxes to the same day of the month in which they happened in the year 325, eleven days were ordered by the British Government and the United States, then the British Colonies, to be stricken out of the month of September, 1752, by calling the 3d the 14th, and it was ordered that hereafter one leap year in 132 years, or three leap years in 40% years should. Congress. "Why," said a gentleman named | the year. To restore the equinoxes to the from there to the District of Columbia and pened in the year 325, eleven days were ord-back again." To-day one can go quicker to ered by the British Government and the years, or three leap years in 400 years, should be omitted; that is that the years 1700, 1800, and 1900, which, by the old style, would have been leap years, should be common Rhode Island and Connecticut, had re- years of 365 days. This method gives ninetseven leap years in every 400 years. Thus, 400 multiplied by 365, plus ninety-seven days for the leap years. gives 146,097 days. This divided by 400 years makes it 365 days, 5 hours and 49 minutes, making a distance from the true solar year of only 23 seconds a year, an error which amounts to only one day in 3,806 years. The even centuries are leap years only when cutting off the even cyphers you can divide the other two figures by four without a remainder. Thus 19 00 is not divisable by four without a remainder, consequently it is not leap year."

degradation in many instances, and will ultimately have to be restored. Slowly and irregularly the states drifted toward universal mage.

Sin may open bright as the morning, but it will end dark as night.—T. DeWitt Talmage.

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